Filing Date: September 8, 2003

Title: AUTOMATIC GENERATOR STARTING PROTECTION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Original) A system comprising:
- an actuator circuit, to automatically start a fuel-powered AC generator when a load circuit needs AC electrical power from the AC generator;
- a sensor circuit, to detect a fault condition indicative of a risk of an exhaust hazard; and a logic circuit, coupled to the sensor and actuator circuits, to disable the actuator circuit when the fault condition indicates that the risk of the exhaust hazard is present.
- (Original) The system of claim 1, in which the actuator circuit includes an automatic 2. generator starting circuit, in which the automatic generator starting circuit includes a load power sensor to indicate when the load circuit needs AC electrical power from the AC generator.
- (Original) The system of claim 1, in which the AC generator includes a spark-ignited 3. generator.
- (Original) The system of claim 1, in which the AC generator includes a diesel generator. 4.
- 5. (Original) The system of claim 1, in which the load circuit includes an at least partially AC-powered electrical appliance of a vehicle.
- (Original) The system of claim 5, in which the load circuit includes an at least partially 6. AC-powered electrical appliance of a recreational vehicle.
- (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a 7. vehicle transmission position detector circuit to inhibit the automatically starting the fuelpowered AC generator.

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8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a data link to provide data used to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.

- 9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a wheel rotation detector circuit to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a reluctance sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a vehicle engine operation sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a vehicle engine rpm sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a vehicle engine ignition key position sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes an exhaust sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, in which the sensor circuit includes a carbon monoxide sensor to inhibit the automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator.
- 16. (Original) The system of claim 1, further including the AC generator.
- 17. (Original) The system of claim 16, further including a vehicle coupled to the AC generator.

- 18. (Original) The system of claim 16, further including a recreational vehicle coupled to the AC generator.
- 19. (Original) The system of claim 16, further including an electrical appliance coupled to the AC generator.
- 20. (Previously Presented) A method comprising: detecting a fault condition indicative of a risk of an exhaust hazard; and disabling an automatic AC generator starting actuator of a fuel-powered electrical AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of the exhaust hazard is present.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting a vehicle transmission position to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.
- 22. (Original) The method of claim 21, in which the detecting the vehicle transmission position includes receiving data over a data link.
- 23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting a wheel rotation to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, in which the detecting the wheel rotation includes sensing a reluctance to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

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25. (Original) The method of claim 23, in which the detecting the wheel rotation includes receiving data over a data link.

- 26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting a change in vehicular motion from moving to stopped to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.
- 27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting a change in vehicular engine operation from engine running to engine off to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.
- 28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting a change in vehicular ignition state to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.
- 29. (Original) The method of claim 28, in which the detecting the change in the vehicular ignition state includes detecting a change from ignition on to ignition off.
- 30. (Original) The method of claim 28, in which the detecting the change in the vehicular ignition state includes monitoring a voltage to at least one vehicular engine component.
- 31. (Original) The method of claim 28, in which the detecting the change in the vehicular ignition state includes receiving data over a data link.
- 32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, in which the detecting the fault condition includes detecting at least one component of exhaust to inhibit automatically starting the fuel-

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powered AC generator when the fault condition indicates that the risk of an exhaust hazard is present.

- 33. (Original) The method of claim 32, in which the detecting the at least one component of exhaust includes detecting carbon monoxide.
- 34. (Original) The method of claim 33, further comprising comparing the detected carbon monoxide to a predetermined threshold value.
- 35. (Original) A system comprising:

a recreational vehicle, including a fuel-powered AC generator;

an actuator circuit, to automatically start the fuel-powered AC generator when a load circuit of the recreational vehicle needs AC electrical power from the AC generator;

a sensor circuit, to detect a fault condition indicative of a risk of an exhaust hazard; and a logic circuit, coupled to the sensor and actuator circuits, to disable the actuator circuit when the fault condition indicates that the risk of the exhaust hazard is present.